

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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Claim 1 (Currently amended): A signal processing apparatus which processes a signal outputted from an image pickup element having filters arranged to use plural kinds of colors, comprising:

interpolation circuit which generates a plurality of color signals for each pixel position of the image pickup element by interpolation based on signals of pixels adjacent to ~~which surround~~ said each pixel position of the image pickup element;

color-difference signal forming circuit for forming color-difference signals based on output of said interpolation circuit;

suppression circuit being provided between said color interpolation circuit and in ~~front of~~ said color-difference signal forming circuit, which suppresses the plurality of color signals generated by said interpolation circuit, if a level of a luminance signal is out of a predetermined range; not lower than a first predetermined level and/or is lower than a second predetermined level;

wherein it is so constructed that plurality of color signals suppressed which are output from said suppression circuit is regarded as input of said color-difference signal forming circuit.

Claims 2-4 (Cancelled).

Claim 5 (Currently amended): A signal processing apparatus which processes a signal outputted from an image pickup element having complementary color filters, comprising:

interpolation circuit which generates complementary color signals for each pixel position of the image pickup element by interpolation based on signals of pixels adjacent to ~~which surround~~ said each pixel position of the image pickup element;

RGB matrix circuit which generates RGB signals from the complementary color signals interpolated by said interpolation circuit;

color-difference signal forming circuit for forming color-difference signals based on the output by said RGB matrix circuit; and

suppression circuit being provided between said interpolation circuit and in front of said color-difference signal forming circuit, which suppresses the RGB signals generated by said RGB matrix circuit, if a level of a luminance signal is out of a predetermined range; not ~~lower than a first predetermined level and/or is lower than a second predetermined level;~~

wherein it is so constructed that RGB signals outputted from said suppression circuit are input into said color-difference signal forming circuit.

Claims 6-8 (Cancelled).

Claim 9 (Currently amended) A signal processing apparatus which processes a signal outputted from an image pickup element having complementary color filters, comprising:

interpolation circuit which generates complementary color signals for each pixel position of the image pickup element by interpolation based on signals of pixels adjacent to ~~which surround~~ each said pixel position of the image pickup element;

RGB matrix circuit which generates RGB signals from the complementary color signals; and

suppression circuit being provided between said interpolation circuit and in front of said RGB matrix circuit, which suppresses the complementary color signals interpolated by

said interpolation circuit, if a level of luminance signal is out of a predetermined range; ~~not lower than a first predetermined level and/or is lower than a second predetermined level;~~

wherein it is so constructed that the color signals outputted from said suppression circuit are inputted into RGB matrix circuit.

Claims 10-11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Currently amended): A signal processing apparatus which processes a signal outputted from an image pickup element having filters arranged to use plural kinds of colors, comprising:

interpolation circuit which generates complementary color signals for each pixel position of the image pickup element by interpolation based on signals of pixels which adjacent to surround said each pixel position of the image pickup element; and

suppression circuit provided between said image pickup element and said interpolation circuit, which suppresses a color signal outputted from the image pickup circuit, if a level of a luminance signal is out of a predetermined range. ~~not lower than a first predetermined level and/or is lower than a second predetermined level;~~ and

~~a color difference signal forming circuit for forming color difference signals using color signals suppressed by said suppression circuit.~~

Claims 13-28 (Cancelled).

Claim 29 (Currently amended): A signal processing apparatus which processes a signal outputted from an image pickup element having filters arranged to use plural kinds of colors, comprising:

a color-suppression circuit, provided for primary color signals or complementary color signals obtained from said image pickup element, for color-suppressing said primary color

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signals or said complementary color signals in accordance with the level of luminance signal; and
~~an image pickup device comprising~~ a color signal processing circuit which
processes ~~for processing~~ output by said suppression circuit.

Claims 30-33 (Cancelled).